Human Services Advisory Committee Minutes of Sept. 19, 2012 Meeting

Present: Ethel Mantzaris (YSB), chair; Sara Anderson (Advocates for Children); Ron Baker (Member At Large); Dexter Eddy (Housing Authority); Lorraine Kenowski (Member At Large); Joan Terry (Comm. on Aging);

Absent: Bev Korba (Senior Center); Victoria Nimirowski (Member At

Large)

Staff: Kevin Grunwald, Dept. Head

Guest: Lyda Bilokur

The previous secretary, Jane Blanshard, is no longer a member of our committee and Joan Terry agreed to take minutes.

The minutes for the June 20, 2012 meeting were approved with the following changes: Sara Anderson was absent and the third paragraph on the second page that begins "Ethel said" should be eliminated. With those changes, the minutes were approved.

Kevin began the meeting by announcing that he plans to step down from his position before the end of this fiscal year.

Kevin updated the Committee members on a number of issues. The Food Share program will begin on Thursday, Sept. 20. The truck will be in the Wright's Way parking lot from approximately 11:15 to 11:45 a.m. Volunteers from the University Community Outreach program will be there to train. The truck will come every other Thursday, once a month there will be refrigerated goods available. Kathy Ann Easley will coordinate this program. When it is up and running, Food Share hopes to serve 100 people each visit. There are no income stipulations for recipients.

Barbara Winslow, Senior Services Worker, has resigned to take a full-time position. Her job has been posted in-house and will be advertised soon. Kevin hopes to have Kathy Ann at the Senior Center several times each week while the position is vacant.

Youth Services was able to award several camperships to Camp Mansfield this past summer. The Mansfield Challenge program was held for its 36th year.

Several programs were held at the Senior Center on Thursday evenings this summer and attendance was quite good at each one. Officials from Masonicare will update the Town Council on their plans for building a living center at the Sept. 24th meeting.

Kevin presented a proposed annual report for our Committee. Several additional items were suggested. Kevin will make the additions and email the report for approval by our members.

It was the consensus of the Committee members that due to the fact that Kevin will be leaving it would be counter productive to spend time formulating long-term goals. Therefore the item regarding the management study was not discussed.

Joan Terry brought up the fact that the Connecticut Dept. of Transportation will be holding a hearing next week and she asked if someone from Human Services would be going to make a statement regarding the need for added transportation services in Mansfield. Kevin said that he would attend the hearing.

Lyda Bilokur asked about the proposed health center that will be located in downtown Storrs. Kevin said his information is what he has read in the newspapers.

Respectfully submitted, Joan Terry

Next Meeting October 17, at 2:00 p.m.